Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 171473

62

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:PKBULLEN:LJP APPROVED BY P-MR. HABIB EUR-MR. EWING S/S-O: RGAMBLE

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O 101943Z JUL 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 171473

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR ON ASAD VISIT TO BELGRADE

1. AT HIS REQUEST, YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY HABIB JULY 10 RE SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD'S JUNE 25 VISIT TO BELGRADE. BELOVSKI SAID THAT TITO DESCRIBED YUGOSLAV POSITION ON LEBANON TO ASAD AS: OPPOSITION TO INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE LEBANESE PROBLEM; OPPOSITION IN PRINCIPLE TO MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ONE COUNTRY BY ANOTHER; DESIRE FOR THE LEBANESE THEMSELVES TO AGREE ON A SOLUTION BRINGING PEACE TO LEBANON; DESIRE FOR SYRIAN-P.L.O. RAPPROCHEMENT AND SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN RAPPROCHEMENT. IN VIEW OF YUGOSLAV POSITION ON PRINCIPLE OF MILITARY INTERVENTION, YUGOSLAVS COULD NOT SUPPORT SYRIAN INTERVENTION BUT INDICATED AN UNDERSTANDING OF SYRIAN PREDICAMENT. BOTH SIDES STRESSED THE ROLE OF THE ARAB LEAGUE AND THE NEED FOR THE ARAB COUNTRIES TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 171473

REACH AGREEMENT.

2. BELOVSKI SAID YUGOSLAVIA CONTINUES TO BE CONCERNED OVER LEBANESE SITUATION, BUT DOES NOT SEEK TO PLAY A ROLE. BUT IN VIEW OF TITO'S STATUS, THEY SENT MESSAGES TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES OPPOSING THE INVOLVEMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNTRIES IN LEBANON, SUPPORTING HAVING THE LEBANESE

REACH AGREEMENT AMONG THEMSELVES, AND SUPPORTING ARAB LEAGUE ACTION.

- 3. REFERRING TO YUGOSLAV SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS,
 BELOVSKI STRESSED THAT, WHATEVER HAPPENS, THE PALESTINIAN
 MOVEMENT WOULD NOT BE DESTROYED BECAUSE IT IS BASED ON A
 POPULATION OF THREE MILLION PEOPLE. BUT OTHER ARABS'
 RELATIONSHIP WITH PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT IS A CHANGING
 CONSTELLATION. SYRIANS INDICATED THEY "SUPPORTED"
 PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT AND SOUGHT RAPPROCHEMENT WITH P.L.O.,
 THOUGH THERE WERE CERTAIN P.L.O. LEADERS THAT THEY WERE
 OPPOSED TO. SYRIANS AVOIDED MENTIONING ARAFAT BY NAME
 IN THIS CONTEXT, THOUGH THEY DID REFER TO FATAH.
- 4. MR. HABIB REASSERTED PRINCIPLES USG SUPPORTS WITH REGARD TO LEBANON, ADDING THAT WHAT HAS BEEN LACKING THUS FAR HAS BEEN COMMON PERCEPTION BOTH AMONG LEBANESE FACTIONS AS WELL AS AMONG ARAB COUNTRIES IN GENERAL ON WHERE THEY WANT TO GO ON LEBANON. THE IMPORTANT THING AT THIS POINT, HE CONCLUDED, IS FOR FIGHTING TO STOP. KISSINGER

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